

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 5:

(11) International Publication Number: WO 92/13837

(43) International Publication Date: 20 August 1992 (20.08.92)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP92/00175

(22) International Filing Date: 28 January 1992 (28.01.92)

(30) Priority data: MI91A000255 1 February 1991 (01.02.91) IT

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ISTITUTO LUSO FARMACO D'ITALIA S.P.A. [IT/IT]; Via Carnia, 26, I-20132 Milano (IT).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GUANTI, Giuseppe [IT/IT]; BANFI, Luca [IT/IT]; NARISANO, Enrica [IT/IT]; RIVA, Renata [IT/IT]; MANGHISI, Elso [IT/IT]; CASCIO, Giuseppe [IT/IT]; Via Carnia, 26, I-20132 Milano (IT).

(74) Agent: MINOJA, Fabrizio; Studio Consulenza Brevettuale, Via Rossini, 8, I-20122 Milano (IT). (81) Designated States: AT (European patent), AU, BB, BE (European patent), BF (OAPI patent), BG, BJ (OAPI patent), BR, CA, CF (OAPI patent), CG (OAPI patent), CH (European patent), CI (OAPI patent), CM (OAPI patent), CS, DE (European patent), DK (European patent), ES (European patent), FI, FR (European patent), GA (OAPI patent), GB (European patent), GN (OAPI patent), GR (European patent), HU, IT (European patent), JP, KP, KR, LK, LU (European patent), MC (European patent), MG, ML (OAPI patent), MN, MR (OAPI patent), MW, NL (European patent), NO, PL, RO, RU, SD, SE (European patent), SN (OAPI patent), TD (OAPI patent), TG (OAPI patent), US.

Published
With international search report.

(54) Title: A PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF 3-ACYLAMINO-4-CARBAMOYLOXYMETHYL-2-AZETIDI-NONE-1-SULPHONIC ACIDS AND INTERMEDIATES FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF

$$\begin{array}{c} H \\ \downarrow \\ N \\ O \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} O \\ O$$

(57) Abstract

A process for the preparatin of monolactams of formula (1) where R is acyl and of the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, starting from (R) malic acid esters, through the new intermediate (3S, 4S) 3-hydrazino-4-hydroxymethyl azetidinone. Further, the conversion of (3S, 4S) 3-(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone and (3S, 4S) 3-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone into (3S, 4S) 3-(benzyloxycarbonyl)amino-4-(carbamoyloxy)-2-azetidinone, respectively, is described.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

A3'	Austria	FI	Finland	MI	Mali
		FR	France	MN	Mongolia
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	MR	Mauritania
RB	Barbados			MW	Malawi
BE	Balgium	GB	United Kingdom		
BF	Burkina Faso	GN	Guinea	NI.	Netherlands
BG	Bulgaria	GR	Greece	NO	Norway
BJ	Benin ·	អប	Hongary	PL	Poland
-	Brazil	ΙE	Ireland	RO	Romania
BR		iT	Italy	RU	Russian Federation
CA	Canada		•	SD	Sudan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan		
CG	Congo	KP	Democratic People's Republic	SE ·	Sweden
CH	Switzerland		of Korea	SN	Senegal
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KR	Republic of Korea	รบ	Soviet Union
		LI	Liechtenstein	TD	Chad
CM	Cameroon		Sri Lanka	TC	Togo
C2.	Czechoslovakia	LK		us	United States of America
DE	Germany	LU	Luxenbourg	บอ	Office States of America
DK	Denmark	MC	Monaco		
ES	Spain .	MG	Madagascar		

A PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF 3-ACYLAMINO-4-CARBA-MOYLOXYMETHYL-2-AZETIDINONE-1-SULPHONIC ACIDS AND INTERMEDIATES FOR THE PREPARATION THEREOF

The present invention relates to a process for the synthesis of monobactams of formula (1)

wherein R represents an easily removable or pharmaceutically acceptable acyl residue, and of pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, starting from (R) malicacid esters. Particularly, R represents the acyl residue of O-benzylcarbonic, O-tert-butylcarbonic, phenylacetic, phenoxyacetic, 2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(Z)-(methoxyimino)acetic, 2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(Z)-(carboxymethoxyimino)acetic, 2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(Z)-(1-carboxy-1-methyl-ethoxyimino)acetic acids.

Further, the invention relates to intermediates,

which are useful for the process, of the following
formula

25

5

10

20

25

wherein A¹, A² and A³, which are the same or different, represent hydrogen or nitrogen and oxygen protective groups, A⁴ represents hydrogen, hydroxy or an OR¹ residue, wherein R¹ is methyl or arylalkyl group. Particularly, object of the present invention are (3S, 4S) 3-hydrazino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone of formula (11)

and the inorganic and organic salts thereof.

The present invention further relates conversion of (11) into the well-known intermediates (3S, 4S) 3-(benzyloxycarbonylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl-2azetidinone (13) and (3S, 4S) 3-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (14), as well as to the conversion of said compounds (13) and (14) into the corresponding intermediates (3S, 4S) 3-(benzyloxycarbonylamino)-4-carbamoyloxymethyl-2-azetidinone (3S, 4S) 3-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-4-carbamoyloxymethyl-2-azetidinone (16), the former, which is already converted, with well-known be well-known, can procedures, into monobactams (1)

3

10 PRIOR ART

15

20

25

The discovery of antimicrobial compounds, named monobactams or sulfazecins, which are characterized by a 2-azetidinonic structure bearing an acylamino group at the 3-position and a sulfonic acid group at the 1position [R.B. Sykes et al., Nature, 291, pag. 489 (1981); A. Imada et al., Nature, 291, pag. 590 (1981)] opened a wide line of research and many non-natural derivatives of said class have subsequently been prepared by synthetic route. Particularly, several monobactams and the general formula (1) pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof showed a remarkable antibiotic activity towards gram-negative bacteria, Pseudomonas aeruginosa included, as well as a consistent stability towards 8-lactamases, which make them particularly interesting from a pharmacological point of view (WO 81/00103; WO 81/00183: 81/00252; WO EP-73061: 4.572.801; 4.665.067; 4.673,739; 4.675.397; 4.782.147; 4.882.788; S. Kishimoto, et al., J. Antibiot., 36, pag. 1421 (1983)).

There is no convenient manner to obtain said monobactams through a microbiological route. Moreover,

25

30

it has been verified that only the compounds with (3S) configuration are active and that the cis derivatives than the trans active more are (namely (45)) preparation Therefore, the derivatives. requires a stereoselective (or a diastereospecific), and enantioselective (or enantiospecific) synthesis, otherwise, in the event of a synthesis leading to racemic products, an optical resolution.

Some syntheses of the compounds of general formula (1) have been described. Said compounds are prepared 10 starting from optically pure natural compounds, such as ascorbic acid (C.C. Wei, et al., J. Org. Chem., 50, 3462 (1985)), or D-glyceraldehyde (A.K. Bose, et al., J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun., 161 (1986)), or aspartic acid (Y. Takahashi, et. al., Chem. Pharm. Bull., 34, 15 2732 (1986)) or by 2+2 cycloaddition between imines and carboxylic derivatives in the presence of chiral promoters on one of the two substrates (S. Cardani et E.B. Tetrahedron, 5563 (1988); D.A. Evans, al.. Sjogren, Tetrahedron Lett., 26, 3783 (1985); R.C. 20 Thomas, Tetrahedron Lett., 5239 (1989)).

Object of the present invention is a totally synthetic process for the preparation of the above compounds of formula (1). The process of the invention is carried out starting from (R) malic acid esters, which are easily obtained from L-tartaric acid.

The compounds of formula (1) are obtained with the correct relative and absolute configuration by means of the process of the invention in a simple and industrially applicable way.

5

DETAILED DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

Scheme 1 and Scheme 2 illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention.

In said Schemes:

15

30

- X is a convenient protective group, which is compatible with reaction conditions. Said protective group can be removed at the step wherein compound (7) is obtained. The removal of X can be carried out before, after or simultaneously the removal of OR¹ group, in reaction conditions compatible with other functional groups present in the compound.

Example of X are R⁴R⁵R⁶Si or R⁴R⁵R⁶SiCH₂CH₂OCH₂ groups, where R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are alkyl, aryl or alkoxy groups. Examples of R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are Ph₂tBuSi; CAr¹Ar²Ar³, where Ar¹, Ar², Ar³ represent substituted or unsubstituted, optionally linked each other, aromatic residues (such as triphenylmethyl); CH₂OCH₂Ar, where Ar represents a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic residue (for example PhCH₂OCH₂).

- 20 Y is a C₁-C₃ alkyl group, such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl; methyl group being preferred.
 - R¹ is a methyl group, or a CH₂Ar group, where Ar is as above defined; for example benzyl group.
- A is a tert-butoxycarbonyl or arylalkyloxycarbonyl group.
 - R is an easily removable or pharmaceutically acceptable acyl group, particularly the acyl residue of O-ben-zylcarbonic, O-tert-butylcarbonic, phenylacetic, phenoxyacetic, 2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(Z)-(methoxyimi-no)acetic, 2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(Z)-(carboxyme-thoxyimino)acetic, 2-(2-amino-4-thiazolyl)-2-(Z)-(1-

6

carboxy-1-methyl-ethoxyimino)acetic acids.

5

The compounds of formula (1) can also be in the form of pharmaceutically acceptable salts, and the compound of formula (11) can also be in the form of an hydrazinium salt.

10

15

20

As previously mentioned, Schemes 1 and 2 represent only one among the many other possible embodiments of the process according to the invention, in fact \mathbb{R}^2 acyl residues can be different from the ones above mentioned.

Referring to Scheme 1, the preparation starts from a (R) malic acid ester (2), which is converted into the diol (3) (step 1) by regioselective reduction with borane and sodium borohydride, as described by S. Saito, et al., (Chem. Lett., 1389 (1984)).

Subsequently, the diol (3) can selectively be protected at the primary hydroxy group: reaction conditions vary according to the protective group being used. For $R^4R^5R^6Si$ type groups, the protection is carried out by reacting the corresponding halides in a dipolar aprotic solvent, such as dimethylformamide or dimethyl sulfoxide, at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 70°C, preferably from 20°C to 50°C, in the presence of a base such as a tertiary amine, or pyridine or imidazole; particularly, in the case of X = Ph2t-BuSi, said reaction is preferably carried out in dimethylformamide at 25°C, in the presence of imidazole, as described by G. Guanti, L. Banfi, E. Narisano, (Tetrahedron Lett., 30, 5507 (1989)).

When $X = R^4 R^5 R^6 SiCH_2 CH_2 OCH_2$ or $CH_2 OCH_2 Ar$, the reaction is preferably carried out in a chlorinated solvent (for example, methylene chloride) in the presence of a tertiary amine (for example diisopropylethylamine) at a temperature ranging from 0°C to the solvent boiling temperature.

When $X = CAr^{1}Ar^{2}Ar^{3}$, the protection is carried out

10

in a halogenated solvent, such as, for example, methylene chloride, by treating with the appropriate halide, in the presence of a nitrogen base (for example, pyridine) and at a temperature ranging from 0°C to the solvent boiling temperature. Particularly, when X = triphenylmethyl, the protection reaction has already been described in literature (K. Prasad, et al., Tetrahedron: Asymmetry, 307 (1990)).

The compounds of formula (4) are obtained with very good protection yield by using $X = CAr^1Ar^2Ar^3$ or $X = R^4R^5R^6Si$, whenever R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are sufficiently bulky.

Next step consists in condensing 8-hydroxyesters (4) with a di-t-butyl- or diarylalkyl azodicarboxylate. Said transformation can be carried out by treating a 15 compound (4) with at least two equivalents of a strong base, such as, for example, a lithium or sodium or potassium dialkylamide (for example, diisopropylamide) in an aprotic solvent, such as tetrahydrofurane or dimethoxyethane, at a temperature ranging from -78°C to 20 20°C, preferably from -40°C to 0°C, followed by the reaction with the azodicarboxylate, at a temperature ranging from -78°C to 0°C. Yields and diastereoselectivity depend on the kind of the protective group X and on reaction temperature. Good results are obtained 25 using X = trityl, and carrying out enolate formation at -40°C and condensing between -40°C and 0°C. In said conditions, a clear prevalence of (2S, 3R) anti-diastereoisomer, with diastereoisomeric ratio higher than 9:1, is reported and main diastereoisomer yield is 30 about 50%. When $X = Ph_{2}t-BuSi$, said condensation had

5

30

11

already been described (G. Guanti et al., Tetrahedron Lett., 30, 5507 (1989)) and resulted in lower stereose-lectivity and with a slightly lower adduct yield.

The so obtained products (5) are isolated by chromatography or crystallization.

Next step consists in converting the esters (5) into O-alkylhydroxamates (6). Said conversion can be effected in two ways.

A) A two-step way. The first step consists in transfor-10 ming the ester group into an acid one. This can be accomplished by treating with an excess of a 0,1 to 2 N alkali hydroxide solution, such as lithium, sodium, potassium, etc, hydroxide in water, in the presence of one or more organic water-miscible cosolvent, such as 15 methyl or ethyl alcohol, tetrahydrofurane, dioxane, dimethylformamide, acetonitrile, etc, or in alcoholic solvent, such as methyl or ethyl alcohol, at a temperature ranging from -20°C to 60°C, preferably from 0°C to 40°C. The best results are obtained when X = $CAr^1Ar^2Ar^3$ or $X = R^4R^5R^6SiCH_2CH_2OCH_2$ or CH_2OCH_2Ar . 20 The so obtained carboxylic acids can be isolated by extraction or by treating with an appropriate ion exchange resin and subsequent by purificating crystallization or chromatography. Alternatively, the 25 basic solution containing the carboxylic acid salts can be used as such for the next reaction.

The second step consists in coupling the so obtained acids (or the salts thereof) with the appropriate O-alkylhydroxylamine (or a hydroxylammonium salt thereof). Said step can be carried out both starting from the carboxylic acids and starting from

5

10

15

20

25

30

the crude carboxylate solution, which has previously been obtained by the above saponification.

Starting from the carboxylic acids, the coupling can be executed in an aqueous solution containing an appropriate water-soluble cosolvent, such as tetrahydrofurane, dimethylformamide or acetonitrile, keeping pH between 4 and 7, according to the group X present, by reacting with the appropriate O-alkylhydroxylamine (or a salt thereof) (for example 1-2 equivalents), in the presence of a condensing agent, such as, example, N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) or 1-(3diaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide (WSC) (1-3 equivalents). Otherwise, the coupling can also be carried out activating the purified carboxylic acids by reaction with dicyclohexylcarbodiimide and N-hydroxybenzotriazole in a dipolar aprotic solvent, such as acetonitrile, dioxane, tetrahydrofurane or dimethylformamide and reacting the so activated adducts in the same solvent with the appropriate O-alkylhydroxylamine or a hydroxylammonium salt thereof (in the latter case also adding an equivalent amount of a tertiary amine, such as, for example, triethylamine).

coupling can directly Further, the same using the crude alkali carboxylate performed by solution, which has been obtained, as above described, from C_1-C_3 alkyl ester saponification. After acidifying to a pH between 3 and 8, the coupling can be performed by reacting with the appropriate O-alkylhydroxylamine (or a hydroxylammonium salt thereof) in the same carried saponification was wherein solvent optionally integrated with the addition of water or of

appropriate organic cosolvents, such as dimethylformammide or tetrahydrofurane, in the presence of a condensing agent such as, for example, N,N'-dicy-clohexylcarbodiimide (DCC) or 1-(3-diaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide (WSC) (1-3 equivalents). For example, when X = triphenylmethyl, the coupling is directly performed on the lithium carboxylate dissolved in a tetrahydrofurane-water mixture using O-benzylhydroxylamine, lithium hydroxide as the base, WSC as the condensing agent. A 50-60% yield is obtained.

B) A one-step way. The esters (5) can be transformed into hydroxamates (6) in a single step by reacting them with the adduct which has been obtained by mixing the appropriate O-alkylhydroxylamine with trimethylaluminum in an aprotic solvent, such as, for example, tetrahydrofurane, at a temperature ranging from -20°C to the solvent boiling temperature (preferably from 0°C to 20°C).

Next step, which consists in transforming hydroxamates (6) into B-lactams (7), can be performed in an appropriate organic solvent (for example tetrahydrofurane, acetonitrile or dimethylformamide) preferably by treating with triphenylphosphine and a dialkyl azodicarboxylate (such as a diethyl or diisopropyl azodicarboxylate), or by treating with triphenylphosphine, carbon tetrachloride and triethylamine at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 60°C (preferably from 20°C to 30°C). Alternatively, the same transformation can be carried out by converting the alcohol into an alkansulfonyl derivative by treating, for example, with methanesulfonyl chloride in pyridine, followed by treatment

PCT/EP92/00175

5

10

15

20

25

30

with bases, such as sodium hydrogencarbonate or sodium carbonate in dipolar aprotic solvents, such as acetone, dioxane, etc. The products (7) are purifiable by means of extraction, chromatography or crystallization.

For example, when X = triphenylmethyl and R^1 = benzyl, the conversion, which is carried out with diethyl azodicarboxylate and triphenylphosphine in tetrahydrofurane at room temperature, occurs with very good yields (about 95%).

The conversion of B-lactams (7) into compounds (10) can be accomplished in several ways. The choice of the method to be used depends on the nature of the X and R^1 groups.

In fact, in some cases it is convenient to remove the X protective group before R¹O group; in other cases it is convenient to act contrarily; finally, in some cases it is possible to remove the two groups at the same time. When $X = R^4R^5R^6Si$ or $R^4R^5R^6SiCH_2CH_2OCH_2$ (for example Ph₂t-BuSi, Me₃SiOCH₂CH₂OCH₂), protective group removal can be performed both before and after removing OR group (preferably before), by treatment with a fluoride (for example tetra-n-butylammonium fluoride) in a solvent, such as tetrahydrofurane or dioxane. When $X = CAr^{1}Ar^{2}Ar^{3}$, protective group removal is preferably performed before OR group removal to derivatives (8). Said unblocking can be made, example, by treating with a strong protic acid (such as a sulfonic acid or trifluoroacetic acid) in methyl or ethyl alcohol at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 60°C, or by heating, at a temperature ranging from 20°C to 100°C, in an acetic acid-water mixture. When X =

CH₂OCH₂Ar and R¹ = CH₂Ar both groups can be removed at the same time to give the product (9) directly. When X is above (CH₂OCH₂Ar) and R¹ is methyl, then X group is removed before R¹ group to give (8). In both cases, deprotection can be performed by hydrogenating in an appropriate solvent (for example, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl alcohol or ethyl acetate) in the presence of a transition metal catalyst, such as palladium (for example, pure or supported on carbon or barium sulfate) or platinum (for example, pure or in the form of dioxide), at a pressure ranging from 1 to 10 atmospheres.

The products (8) (R¹ = CH₂Ar) can be converted into the compound (9) by hydrogenating in an appropriate solvent (for example, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, iso-propyl alcohol or ethyl acetate) in the presence of a transition metal catalyst, such as palladium (for example, pure or supported on carbon or barium sulfate) or platinum (for example, pure or in the form of dioxide), at a pressure ranging from 1 to 10 atmospheres. For example, very high yields are obtained by operating in methyl alcohol at 1 atmosphere pressure and using 10% palladium on carbon as catalyst. The so obtained hydroxamic acid (9) requires no further purification, but it can directly be used for the next step, which consists in reducing it to give the azetidinone (10).

Said transformation can be performed, for example, by adding a aqueous hydrochloric acid titanium trichloride solution to the substrate (9), which is dissolved in a water/alcohol system (for example

10

15

20

25

30

water/methanol) at a pH between 3 and 10 (preferably 7), maintained with buffer solutions, or by simultaneously dropping an alkali hydroxide solution. In said conditions, good yields, about 50-60%, are obtained.

When R^1 = methyl, the products (8) can directly be converted into (10) in a single step, by treating them with alkali metals (for example, sodium) in liquid ammonia, optionally in the presence of organic cosolvents.

Finally, when R^1 = methyl and $X = ArCH_2OCH_2$ or = $Ar^1Ar^2Ar^3C$, (7) can also be converted directly into (10) in a single step, by treating (7) with alkali metals (for example, sodium) in liquid ammonia, optionally in the presence of organic cosolvents. The compound (10) can be purified by chromatography or crystallization.

Next step consists in converting (10) into the key intermediate (11) and can be carried out by treating (10) with a strong carboxylic acid, such as, for example, trifluoroacetic or formic acid. A cosolvent, which is compatible with reaction conditions, for example, methylene chloride, can optionally be used. Said reaction can be carried out with very good yields, by stirring for 1 hour a 1:1 trifluoroacetic acid: methylene chloride solution of (10), at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 25°C. The so obtained product (11) can be used wether as such for the next reaction, or purified by the conventional techniques (crystallization, ion exchange chromatography, etc.).

The product (11) and the hydrazinium salts thereof

10

15

20

25

30

(for example, chloride, acetate, trifluoroacetate, formate) are new, therefore they are a further object of the present invention.

(11) can be converted into the known intermediate (12) by reacting a hydrazinium salt thereof with hydrogen in the presence of catalysts, such as platinum dioxide or Raney® Nickel, at a pressure ranging from 1 to 200 atmospheres and, depending on the used catalyst, in water, alcohol (for example, methanol or ethanol) or water-alcohol mixtures. Also (12) can be purified or directly reacted, as crude, with benzyloxycarbonyl chloride or with di-t-butyl dicarbonate to give the known products (13) and (14). This last conversion can be performed by treating with the appropriate acylating agent in an anhydrous solvent, such as dimethylformamide or acetonitrile and in the presence of a base, such as a tertiary amine (for example, triethylamine); otherwise, and preferably, in aqueous solution kept at a pH between 8 and 10 with alkaly hydroxides (lithium, sodium or potassium) or alkali carbonates (sodium, potassium). As above stated the products (12), (13) and (14) are known even if they have been prepared through a different synthetic route (R.C. Thomas, Tetrahedron Lett., 5239 (1989)).

The products (13) and (14) can be transformed into the carbamates (15) and (16), the former being a well known derivative (U.S. 499,801; S. Kishimoto, et al., J. Antibiot., 36, pag. 1421 (1983)). Said conversion is new, therefore it is a further object of the present invention.

It can be performed by reacting (13) or (14) with

10

15

20

25

an acyl or sulfonyl isocyanate in an aprotic solvent, such as dimethylformamide or methylene chloride or tetrahydrofurane, followed by the resulting N-acyl (or Nsulfonyl) carbamate deprotection. In the case of Ndeprotection chloracetylcarbamates, said performed by treatment with sodium or potassium N-alkyl dithiocarbamates, while, in the case of N-sulfonylcarbamates, by treatment with sodium sulfite. Very good results (with overall yield of the two steps comprised between 50% and 75%) are obtained, for example, by carrying out the reaction with chloroacetyl isocyanate in dimethylformamide/methylene chloride at 0°C and by deprotecting the chloroacetyl urethane by reacting with sodium N-methyl dithiocarbamate.

Compound (15) can be converted by means of well-known techniques (U.S. Patent Application 499,801; S. Kishimoto, et al., J. Antibiot., 36, pag. 1421 (1983)), into the products of general formula (1).

According to a further embodiment of the present invention, the above process can be alternatively carried out as far as the introduction of amino group into 2-position of ß-hydroxyester (4) is concerned, by electrophilic amination with other synthetic equivalents of NH₂⁺ group, such as sulfonyl azides, O-substituted hydroxylamines and diazonium salts. According to the invention, sulfonyl azides, especially p-toluensulfonyl azide, 2,4,6-triisopropylbenzensulfonyl azide and p-dodecylbenzensulfonyl azide, are particularly preferred.

The following examples further illustrate the invention.

EXAMPLE 1

Methyl (3R) 3-hydroxy-4-(triphenylmethyl)oxybutanoate
(4) (X = triphenylmethyl; Y = Me) from (3).

12.96 g (96.62 mmoles) of (3), wherein Y = Me, 5 were dissolved in 200 ml of anhydrous methylene chloride, under nitrogen stream, and cooled to 0°C. 11.72 ml (144.93 mmoles) of pyridine and 32.32 (115.92 mmoles) of trityl chloride were added; after 15 minutes the ice bath was removed and the reaction was let to 10 stand under stirring at r.t. for 20 hours. As the reaction resulted incomplete, 3 ml (3.71 mmoles) of pyridine and 8 g (2.87 mmoles) of trityl chloride were further added, and the reaction was carried out for further 3 hours. The suspension was diluted with brine 15 and extracted 3 times with diethyl ether; then the organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and vacuum distilled; residual pyridine was removed by azeotropic evaporation after adding 200 ml of benzene. The crude was purified through a 500 g SiO, column, with a 20 gradient eluent (8:2:0.1 to 3:7:0.1 petroleum ether/diethyl ether/triethylamine).

28.69 g (yield 79%) of product, which was crystallized from isopropyl ether/penthane to a colourless compound, were obtained.

- ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃; 200 MHz; J(Hz)): $\delta_{\rm H}$ 7.23-7.46 (15 H, m, trityl), 4.23 (1H, center of m, <u>H</u>-3), 3.68 (3H, s, OC<u>H</u>₃), 3.17 (2H, d, J 5.4, <u>H</u>-4), 2.90 (1H, d, J 4.7, O<u>H</u>), 2.53 e 2.57 (2H, AB portion of ABX syst., J_{AB} 14.7, J_{AX} 3.6, J_{BX} 9.2, <u>H</u>-2).
- IR (chloroform, cm⁻¹): \$\mathcal{Y}\$ 1728 (ester carbonyl).

 M.P. 71.8-72.6°C (iso-propyl ether/penthane).

10

15

20

25

[α]_D¹³ = +5.48° (c 1.99, chloroform). Elemental analysis for $C_{24}H_{24}O_4$; found: C 76.54%; H 6.27%; O 17.19%; calculated: C 76.57%; H 6.43%; O 17.00%.

EXAMPLE 2

Methyl (2S, 3R) 2-[N,N'-bis-(tert-butoxycar-bonyl)hydrazino]-3-hydroxy-4-(triphenylmethyl)oxybutanoate (5) (X = triphenylmethyl; Y = Me) from (4).

9.16 ml (65.34 mmoles) of disopropylamine were added, under nitrogen stream, to 80 ml of anhydrous tetrahydrofurane (THF) and the solution was cooled down to -18°C; 38.29 ml (61.26 mmoles) of n-BuLi (1.6 M hexane solution) were subsequently dropped and the solution was kept under stirring at the same temperature for 20 minutes. The reaction was then cooled to -40 °C and 7.687 g (20.42 mmoles) of (4), obtained in example 1, previously dissolved in 20 ml of THF, were added. After 5 minutes, the reaction vessel was let reach 0°C and let under stirring for 30 minutes. After cooling again to -20°C, di-tert-butyl azodicarboxylate, previously dissolved in 20 ml of THF, was added and the system was kept under stirring, letting the temperature to raise till 0°C. The reaction was stopped at 0°C, by adding 7.5 ml of glacial acetic acid. After 5 minutes, the suspension was diluted with a NH4Cl saturated solution and brine and extracted with diethyl ether.

The organic phase, previously dried over Na₂SO₄, was concentrated under reduced pressure, to give 17.53 g cf a yellow oil, which was passed through a 350 g SiO₂ chromatographic column, eluting with a 8:2:0.03 to

21

5:5:0.03 petroleum ether/diethyl ether/triethylamine mixture. 5.82 g (yield 48%) of (5) were obtained.

 1 H-NMR (DMSO- 1 6, 80 MHz; 130°C; J(Hz)): \mathcal{S}_{H} 8.07 (1H, s broad, NH), 7.03-7.67 (15H, m, trityl), 4.86 (1H, d, J

5 6.5, \underline{H} -2), 4.00-4.35 (lH, m, \underline{H} -3), 3.61 (3H, s, OC \underline{H} ₃), 3.22 (2H, d, J 5.3, \underline{H} -4), 1.44*[9H, s, N-(\underline{Boc})], 1.40*[9H, s, NH-(\underline{Boc})].

IR (chloroform, cm⁻¹): $\sqrt{3}$ 1731 (ester carbonyl). [α]_D 13 = +18.73° (c 2.04, chloroform).

10 Elemental analysis for C₃₄H₄₂N₂O₈; found: C 67.04%; H 6.93%; N 4.74%; O 21.29%; calculated: C 67.31%; H 6.98%; N 4.62%; O 21.1%.

interchangeable signals

20

25

30

EXAMPLE 3

- Benzyl (2S, 3R) 2-[N,N'-bis-(tert-butoxycarbo-nyl)hydrazino]-3-hydroxy-4-(triphenylmethyl)oxybutane-hydroxamate (6) (X = triphenylmethyl) from (5).
 - 2.90 g (4.78 mmoles) of ester (5), obtained in example 2, were dissolved in 20 ml of freshly distilled THF, 30 ml of distilled water were then added and the system was cooled to 0°C; 31 ml (15.3 mmoles) of 0.5 N LiOH aqueous solution were dropped within 15'. The suspension was kept under vigorous stirring at r.t. for 7 hours. The reaction was cooled to 0°C and pH was adjusted to 6 with 1N HCl; 915 mg (5.74 mmoles) of 0-benzylhydroxylamine were added and pH was adjusted to 6, adding a 0.5 N LiOH aqueous solution. Finally, 1.833 g (9.56 mmoles) of WSC (1-(3-diaminopropyl)-3-ethylcar-bodimide) were added and the system was let under stirring at r.t. for 20 hours. The aqueous phase was saturated with NaCl, then extracted with ethyl acetate.

10

The organic extract was dried over Na₂SO₄ and evaporated to dryness, giving 3.56 g of crude in the form of a foam. The crude was passed through a 150 g SiO₂ chromatographic column, eluting with a 6:4:0.03 to 4:6:0.03 petroleum ether/diethyl ethertriethylamine mixture.

1.994 g (yield 60%) were obtained.

 1_{H-NMR} (DMSO-d₆, 80 MHz, 130°C, J(Hz)): \mathbf{f}_{H} 7.24-7.47 (20H, m, trityl and benzyl aromatics), 4.79 (2H, s, OCH₂Ph), 4.55 (1H, d, J 6.2, H-2), 4.11-4.31 (1H, m, H-3), 3.19-3.26 (1H, m, H-4), 1.40*(9H, s, N-(Boc)), 1.37*(9H, s, NH-(Boc)).

IR (chloroform, cm⁻¹): > 1719, 1685, 1673 (carbonyl; hydroxamate and Boc).

 $[q]_D^{13} = -6.27^{\circ} (c 2.41, chloroform).$

* interchangeable signals

EXAMPLE 4

- (3S, 4S) 1-benzyloxy-3-[N,N'-bis-(tert-butoxycarbo-nyl)hydrazino]-4-(triphenylmethyl)oxymethyl-2-azetidinone (7) (\mathbb{R}^1 = benzyl) from (6).
- 2.950 g (4.67 mmoles) of (6), obtained in example
 3, were dissolved in 25 ml of anhydrous THF and added,
 in nitrogen stream and r.t., to 1.837 g (7.01 mmoles)
 of triphenylphosphine and 1.10 ml (6.99 mmoles) of
 diethyl azodicarboxylate. The yellow solution was let
 under stirring for 15 hours; the solvent was then
 vacuum distilled and the residue was directly passed
 through a 200 g SiO₂ chromatographic column, eluting
 with a 7:3 to 1:1 petroleum ether/diethyl ether
 mixture. 2.730 g (95% yield) of a colourless foam were
 obtained.
 - $^{1}_{H-NMR}$ (DMSO- $^{1}_{6}$, 80 MHz, 131°C, J(Hz)): δ_{H} 8.45 (1H, s

20

25

30

broad, NH), 7.24-7.50 (20H, m, trytil and benzyl aromatics), 4.99 (2H, s, OCH₂Ph), 4.84 (1H, d, J 5.6, H-3), 4.16 (1H, m center, H-4), 3.45-3.62 (2H, m, CH₂OH), 1.37*(9H, s, N-(Boc)), 1.27*(9H, s, NH-(Boc)).

IR (chloroform, cm⁻¹): \checkmark 1783 (ß-lactam carbonyl), 1722 (Boc carbonyl).

 $[\alpha]_D^{16} = +5.07^{\circ} \text{ (c 1.96, chloroform)}.$

Elemental analysis for $C_{40}H_{45}N_3O_7$; found: C 69.95%; H 6.75%; N 6.31%; O 16.99%; calculated: C 70.67%; H

10 6.67%; N 6.18%; O 16.47%.

* interchangeable signals

EXAMPLE 5

(3S, 4S) 1-benzyloxy-3-[N,N'-bis-(tert-butoxycarbo-nyl)hydrazino]-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (8) (\mathbb{R}^1 = benzyl) from (7).

1.045 g (1.54 mmoles) of (7) were dissolved in 20 ml of anhydrous methanol, under nitrogen stream; the solution was cooled to 0°C and 292 mg (1.54 mmoles) of p-toluensulfonic acid were added. After 5 minutes, the ice bath was removed and the system was let to stand under stirring at r.t. for 2.5 hours. Acid excess was neutralized with a NaHCO₃ saturated solution, then the solution was concentrated to a small volume. The residue was diluted with brine and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was vacuum distilled. 1.067 g of crude were passed through a 40 g SiO₂ chromatographic column, using a 1:1 to 3:7 petroleum ether/diethyl ether mixture. 458 mg (70% yield) of a white foam were obtained.

 1 H-NMR (DMSO- d_{6} , 80 MHz, 129°C, J(Hz)): δ_{H} 8.46 (1H, s

15

20

25

30

broad, NH), 7.28-7.40 (5H, m, benzyl aromatic), 6.91 (1H, s broad, OH), 5.00 (2H, s, OCH₂Ph), 4.92 (1H, d, J 5.4, H-2), 4.01-4.14 (1H, m, H-3), 3.62-3.99 (2H, m, CH₂-OH), 1.44*(9H, s, N-(Boc)), 1.40*(9H, s, NH-(Boc)). [Q]_D = +7.65° (c 2.01, chloroform). Elemental analysis for $C_{21}H_{31}N_{3}O_{7}$; found: C 57.28%; H 6.96%; N 9.48%; O 26.28%; calculated: C 57.65%; H

* interchangeable signals

10 EXAMPLE 6

7.14%; N 9.6%; O 25.6%.

(3S, 4S) 3-[N,N'-bis-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)hydrazino]-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (10) from (8) through intermediate (9).

175 mg of 10% Pd/carbon were added to a solution of 746 mg (1.71 mmoles) of (8), obtained in example (5), in 20 ml of methanol. The suspension was hydrogenated for 1 hour at r.t. and at atmospheric pressure. The catalyst was filtered through a paper filter and thoroughly washed with methanol; the filtrate was subsequently evaporated to dryness at reduced pressure giving (9) in the form of a colourless oil, which was immediately used for the next step. The crude from hydrogenation was dissolved in 8 ml of MeOH and added in a beaker containing 30 ml of phosphate buffer at pH 7. pH, which was monitored with a pH meter, was adjusted to 7 with the addition of 3N NaOH by means of a buret. 3.5 ml (8.55 mmoles) of a 30% $TiCl_3$ in 2N HCl solution were dropped, into the vigorously stirred solution within 15 minutes. In the meantime, pH was maintained the nearest to 7 with 3N NaOH additions (about 11 ml). At the end of TiCl3 additions, the system was let to

stand under stirring, at r.t., for 2 hours. The aqueous system was saturated with NaCl, pH was adjusted to 8.5 and the stirring was continued for 1 day further, in order to allow the release of the product by Ti(III). The suspension was filtered on Celite and the aqueous phase was extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was vacuum distilled.

The crude was passed through a 30 g SiO₂ chromatographic column, using a 8:2 ethyl acetate/petroleum ether mixture. 348 mg (63% yield; two steps) of a white solid, which crystallized spontaneously, were obtained.

1 H-NMR (DMSO-d₆, 80 MHz, 130°C, J(Hz)): Note: the spectrum gave poor resolution even at this temperature and some peaks resulted rather broadened; however, the spectrum was easier understandable when recorded in the presence of 5% D₂O; $\delta_{\rm H}$ 4.90 (1H, m center, X part of ABCX syst., H-3), 3.52-3.79 (3H, m, ABC part of ABCX syst., H-4 + CH₂OH), 1.44 (18H, s, N(Boc) + NH(Boc)).

20 IR (chloroform, cm⁻¹): \rightarrow 1770 (β -lactam carbonyl), 1722 (Boc carbonyl).

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{18} = +16.4^{\circ} \text{ (c 1.52, methanol)}.$

Elemental analysis for $C_{14}H_{25}N_3O_6$; found: C 50.58%; H 7.41%; N 12.72%; O 29.29%; calculated: C 50.75%; H

25 7.6%; N 12.68%; O 28.97%.

EXAMPLE 7

- (3S, 4S) 3-hydrazino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (11) from (10).
- 30 95.6 mg (288.5 µmoles) of (10), obtained in example 6, were suspended in 1 ml of anhydrous

^{*} interchangeable signals

10

20

methylene chloride, under nitrogen stream. The suspension was cooled down to 0°C and 0.5 ml of trifluoroacetic acid were added and a complete dissolution was observed. After 45 minutes, the ice bath was removed and the reaction was let to stand under stirring at r.t. for 1 hour. The solvent was vacuum distilled and the residue was accurately dried at 10⁻² mm for 24 hours, as to eliminate trifluoroacetic acid completely. The residue pale yellow oil was utilized for the following hydrogenation and for ¹H-NMR analysis without purification.

 1_{H-NMR} (D₂O, 200 MHz, J(Hz)): δ_H 4.64 (1H, d, J 4.6, \underline{H} -3), 3.97-4.08 (1H, m, \underline{H} -4), 3.80-3.91 (2H, m, $\underline{C}\underline{H}_2$ OH).

EXAMPLE 8

15 (3S, 4S) 3-amino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (12) from (11).

The crude, obtained from example 7, was dissolved in 5 ml of water; 50 mg of PtO₂ were added and hydrogenation was carried out at r.t. and atmospheric pressure for 30 hours. The catalyst was filtered off on paper filter, thoroughly washing with water, then with methanol. The solvent was vacuum distilled and the resulting pale-yellow oil was used for next steps and for ¹H-NMR analysis without purification.

 $^{1}_{H-NMR}$ (D₂O, 200 MHz, J(Hz)): $^{1}_{H}$ 4.65 (1H, d, J 5.0, $^{1}_{H-3}$), 4.07-4.12 (1H, m, $^{1}_{H-4}$), 3.92-4.00 (2H, m, $^{1}_{C}$ OH).

EXAMPLE 9

- (3S, 4S) 3-(benzyloxycarbonylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (13) from (12).
- 30 The crude of example 8 was dissolved into 3 ml of $1N NaHCO_3$ aqueous solution; 64 μl (403.0 $\mu moles$) of

15

20

25

benzyl chloroformate were added and the reaction was let to stand under stirring at r.t. for 6 hours. The suspension was diluted with brine and extracted with ethyl acetate; the organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and vacuum distilled, giving 54 mg of crude, which was subsequently purified by means of column chromatography with a 95:5 ethyl acetate/petroleum ether mixture. 36.1 mg (40% yield; three steps) of a white crystalline solid were obtained.

EXAMPLE 10

(35, 4S) 3-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (14) from (12).

The crude of example 8 was dissolved in 2 ml of anhydrous dimethylformamide, under nitrogen stream, and 115 ml (810 µmoles) of triethylamine and 320 µl (1.35 mmoles) of di-tert-butyl dicarbonate were further added. The reaction system was let to stand for 3 days at r.t. At the end of this time, brine was added followed by extraction with ethyl acetate. The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was vacuum distilled. 63.7 mg of crude were obtained. The subsequent chromatography with a 95:5 ethyl acetate/methanol mixture gave 17.3 mg (30% yield; three steps) of a white solid.

30 1 H-NMR (DMSO- 1 6, 200 MHz, J(Hz)): σ_{H} 8.21 (1H, s, NH-1), 7.31 (1H, d, J 9.8, NH-(Boc)), 4.81 (1H, dd, J 4.1

10

15

20

25

and 9.8, \underline{H} -3), 3.32-3.67 (3H, m, \underline{H} -4 + \underline{CH}_2 OH), 1.39 (9H, s, NH-(Boc)).

EXAMPLE 11

(3S, 4S) 3-(benzyloxycarbonylamino)-4-carbamoyloxyme-thyl-2-azetidinone (15) from (13).

77.4 mg (309 µmoles) of (13), obtained in example 10, were dissolved in 3.5 ml of a 6:1 methylene chloride/dimethylformamide mixture, under stream. The solution was cooled to 0°C and 53 µl (619 pmoles) of chloroacetyl isocyanate were added; the reaction was complete after 1.5 hours. 2.39 mg (1.85 mmoles) of sodium N-methyl dithiocarbamate, previously dissolved into 2 ml of water, were added and the solution was maintained for 4 hours under vigorous stirring, until complete reaction. The aqueous phase was saturated with sodium chloride and extracted with a 85:15 chlorform/methanol mixture. The organic phase was dried over $\mathrm{Na}_2\mathrm{SO}_4$ and the solvent was vacuum distilled. The crude was purified through a chromatographic column with a 95:5 ethyl acetate/methanol mixture. 67.9 mg (75% yield; two steps) of a white solid were obtained. 1 H-NMR (DMSO- 1 G, 200 MHz, J(Hz)): 1 G 8.39 (1H, s, NH-1), 8.00 (1H, d, J 9.5, NH-(Cbz)), 7.36-7.40 (5H, m, Cbz aromatic), 6.56 (2H, s broad, NH_2), 5.01 and 5.10 (2H, AB-system, J 12.5, $C_{\underline{H}_2}$ -Ph), 4.96 (1H, dd, J 4.8 and 9.5, \underline{H} -3), 4.10-3.93 (2H, m, \underline{CH}_2 OH), 3.80-3.90 (1H, m, H-4).

EXAMPLE 12

(3S, 4S) 3-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)-4-carbamoyloxymethyl-2-azetidinone (16) from (14).

The reaction was carried out under the same condi-

tions described in example 11 and led to the desired product with 63% yield.

 1 H-NMR (DMSO- 1 6, 200 MHz, J(Hz)): 1 8.34 (1H, s, NH-1), 7.56 (1H, d, J 9.7, NH-(Boc)), 6.55 (2H, s broad, NH₂), 4.90 (1H, dd, J 5.3 and 9.7, H-3), 3.91-4.12 (2H, m, CH₂OH), 3.76-3.87 (1H, m, H-4), 1.40 (9H, s, NH-(Boc)).

 $[\alpha]_D^{18} = +56.5^{\circ} (c 0.75, methanol)$

CLAIMS

1. (3S, 4S) azetidinones of formula

5

10

wherein:

 A^1 , A^2 , A^3 , which are the same or different, are hydrogen or nitrogen and oxygen protective groups, and A^4 is hydrogen, hydroxy, or OR^1 group, where R^1 is a methyl or an arylalkyl group; and the organic or inorganic salts thereof, as intermediates.

2. A compound according to claim 1 of formula (11)

20

15

- which is (3S, 4S) 3-hydrazino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone, and the inorganic or organic salts thereof.
 - 3. A process for the preparation of (3S, 4S) 3-hydra-zino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (11), which consists in
- 30 a) condensing (3R) 3-hydroxyesters of formula (4)

31

wherein X is a protective group selected from the group consisting of silyl, triarylmethyl or aryloxymethyl, Y is a C_1 - C_3 alkyl group, with an azodicarboxylate of formula

$$A - N = N - A$$

- wherein A is a tert-butoxycarboxylate or an arylalkoxy-carbonyl group;
 - b) converting (2S, 3R) 2-N,N'-bis-(A)hydrazino-3-hydroxyesters of formula (5)

15

wherein X, Y and A have the above meanings, into the corresponding hydroxamates of formula (6)

25

wherein X and A have the above meanings, R¹ is methyl or arylalkyl;

30 c) cyclizing said hydroxamates (6) into (3S, 4S) azetidinones of formula (7)

wherein X, A and R have the above meanings;

d) removing X and R^1 groups and reducing the resulting N-OH group to a NH group;

10 e) removing A groups.

5

15

20

25

30

4. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step a) is carried out by treating hydroxyesters (4) at a temperature ranging from -78°C to +20°C, with at least 2 equivalents of strong base in aprotic solvents and reacting the resulting enolates with an azodicarboxylate at a temperature ranging from -78°C to 0°C.

5. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step b) is carried out by hydrolizing esters (5) with alkali hydroxydes, at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 60°C, in a system formed by water and a water-miscible solvent, or in an alcoholic system, and reacting the obtained acids with a hydroxylamine of formula NH₂OR¹, where R¹ has the above meanings, in the presence of condensing agents at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 40°C, in aqueous solvent.

6. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step b) is carried out by reacting esters (5) directly with the adduct obtained from an hydroxylamine of formula NH₂OR¹, where R¹ has the above meanings, with trimethylaluminum in an aprotic solvent, at a tem-

5

20

25

30

perature ranging from -20°C to the solvent boiling temperature.

- 7. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step c) is carried out by reacting hydroxamates (6) with triphenylphosphine and a dialkyl azodicarboxylate in an aprotic solvent, at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 40°C.
- 8. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step d), whenever X is a protective group of ary-lalkylsilyl type, is carried out by removing, in any order X group with fluorides in a solvent selected from the group consisting in tetrahydrofurane, dioxane; and R¹ group with hydrogenolysis on palladium or platinum, and subjecting the azetidinones (9) to the reduction of the OH group with TiCl₂ in aqueous CH₂OH.
 - 9. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step d), whenever X is a protective group of triarylmethyl type and R¹ is arylalkyl, is carried out by removing X wether with protic strong acids in alcoholic solvent at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 60°C, or with aqueous acetic acid at a temperature ranging from 20°C to 100°C, and subsequently removing R¹ by hydrogenolysis on palladium or platinum, and subjecting the azetidinones (9) to the reduction of the OH group with TiCl₃ in aqueous CH₃OH.
 - 10. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step d), whenever X is arylmethoxymethyl and R^1 is arylalkyl, is carried out by contemporaneously removing X and R^1 by hydrogenolysis on palladium or platinum, and subjecting the azetidinones (9) to the reduction of the OH group with TiCl₃ in aqueous CH₃OH.

10

15

20

11. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step d), whenever X is a protective group of silyl type and R¹ is methyl, is carried out by removing X by treating with fluoride in a solvent selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrofurane, dioxane and subsequently reducing the intermediates (8) directly to (10) with alkali metals in liquid ammonia.

12. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step d), whenever X is triarylmethyl or aryloxymethyl and R^{l} is methyl, is carried out by reducing the intermediates (7) directly to (10) with alkali metals in liquid ammonia.

13. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that step e), whenever A is tert-butoxycarbonyl, is carried out with a strong carboxylic acid, optionally in the presence of an inert solvent, at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 25°C.

14. A process according to claim 3, characterized in that steps d) and e), whenever A is arylalkyloxycarbonyl, are carried out at the same time, without isolating the intermediate (10).

15. A process for the preparation of monobactams of formula (1)

25

30

where R represents an easily removable or pharmaceuti-

35

cally acceptable acyl residue, consisting in:

a) converting (3S, 4S) 3-hydrazino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (11)

5

10

into (3S, 4S) 3-amino-4-hydroxymethyl-2-azetidinone (12)

15

- b) acylating (12) to the corresponding 3-N-acylamino-2-20 azetidinones;
 - c) carbamoylating to the corresponding 3-N-acylamino-2-carbamoyloxymethyl-2-azetidinones;
 - d) sulfamating 3-N-acylamino-4-carbamoyloxymethyl-2-azetidinones to compounds of formula (1).
- 25 16. A process according to claim 15, characterized in that step a) is carried out by subjecting (11), or a hydrazinium salt thereof, to catalytic hydrogenation on PtO₂ or Ni Raney[®], at a pressure ranging from 1 to 200 atmospheres.
- 30 17. A process according to claim 15, characterized in that step b) is carried out by acylating the amino-

5

36

derivative (12) with activate derivatives of R-OH acids, where R is as above defined.

18. A process according to claim 15, characterized in that step c), whenever R is benzyloxycarbonyl or tert-butoxycarbonyl, is carried out by treating 3-acylamino-2-azetidinones with an acyl or sulfonyl isocyanate in aprotic solvents and by deprotecting the so obtained N-acyl or N-sulfonyl carbamates with alkali metal N-alkyldithiocarbamates or alkali sulfites, respectively.

International Application No

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ⁶										
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC										
Int.Cl. 5 CO7D20	5/085									
II. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum Documentation Searchef'										
Classification System Classification Symbols										
Int.Cl. 5	C07D									
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·								
		her than Minimum Documentation hts are Included in the Fields Searched ⁸								
		<u> </u>								
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT ⁹										
Category Citation of	f Document, 11 with indication, where appro	printe, of the relevant passages 12	Relevant to Claim No.13							
A EP.A.	EP,A,O 111 326 (HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE & CO.) 20 June									
1984	•		15-18							
see c	laims									
A EP.A.	EP,A,O 093 376 (TAKEDA CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD.									
) 9 N	ovember 1983 [.]									
cited in the application see claims										
366 C										
	0 411 541 (CONSIGLIO NA	ZIONALE DELLE	1-18							
	CHE) 6 February 1991									
300 0	see claims									
	10	"T" later document published after the interna	sional filtra data							
Special categories of cite "A" document defining the	general state of the art which is not .	or priority date and not in conflict with the	e application but							
considered to be of particular relevance invention E' earlier document but published on or after the international X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention										
filing date "L" document which may	considered to									
which is cited to estab citation or other speci	med invention ive step when the									
"O" document referring to other means	"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more of									
"P" document published p later than the priority	illy									
IV. CERTIFICATION										
Date of the Actual Completion	ch Report									
06										
International Searching Author										
EURO	Zoul.									

ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO. SA

9200175 55448

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information. 06/04/92

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date	
EP-A-0111326	20-06-84	US-A- 45029 AU-B- 5714 AU-A- 22215 JP-A- 591129 US-A- 46634	74 2: 83 14 86 2:	5-03-85 1-04-88 1-06-84 9-06-84 5-05-87	
EP-A-0093376	09-11-83	JP-C- 14850; JP-A- 581891; JP-B- 630341; AU-B- 5641; AU-A- 13445; GB-A,B 21242; GB-A,B 21563; SU-A- 14807; SU-A- 13806; US-A- 46753; US-A- 45728; US-A- 47821;	76 04 55 08 50 06 83 03 07 15 50 09 63 15 12 07 97 23 91 25 93 16	4-03-89 4-11-83 3-07-88 5-08-87 3-11-83 5-02-84 9-10-85 5-05-89 7-03-88 3-06-87 5-02-86 5-06-87 1-11-88	
EP-A-0411541	06-02-91	CA-A- 20225 JP-A- 31412		3-02-91 7-06-91 	

This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning Operations and is not part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

BLACK BORDERS

IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES

FADED TEXT OR DRAWING

BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING

SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES

COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS

GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT

REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

OTHER: _

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.